GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Servants – Commercial Taxes Department – Surprise Check conducted on the Integrated Check Post, Purushottapuram, Ichapuram Mandal, Srikakulam District on 18.01.2014 – Allegations of Corruption – Initiation of Disciplinary Proceedings against Sri Bonela Ramanamurthy, Forest Section Officer, Forest Department, Integrated Check Post, Purushottapuram, Ichapuram Mandal, Srikakulam District under Rule 20 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991 - Article of Charges – Issued.

REVENUE (VIGILANCE–II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.597 Dated:28-09-2021
Read the follwoing:-

1. G.O.Ms.No.234, Revenue (Vig.II) Department, dt.27-08-2020.
2. G.O.Ms.No.265, Revenue (Vig.II) Department, dt.28-09-2021.

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ORDER:

In continuation of the orders issued under Rule 24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991 in the reference 1st read above, it is considered necessary to hold an enquiry against Sri Bonela Ramanamurthy, Forest Section Officer, Forest Department, Integrated Check Post, Purushottapuram, Ichapuram Mandal, Srikakulam District under Rule 20 of the said rules.

2. The substance of the imputation of misconduct or misbehavior in respect of which the inquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed statement of articles of charge (Annexure-I) and the imputation of misconduct or misbehavior in support of each article of charge is enclosed (Annexure-II). A list of documents by which and a list of witnesses by whom the articles of charge are proposed to be sustained are also enclosed (Annexure-III & IV).

3. Sri Bonela Ramanamurthy, Forest Section Officer, Forest Department, Integrated Check Post, Purushottapuram, Ichapuram Mandal, Srikakulam District is directed to submit within ten days of the receipt of this order a written statement of his defense.

4. He is informed that an inquiry will be held only in respect of those articles of charge as are not admitted. He should, therefore, specifically admit or deny each article of charge.

5. Sri Bonela Ramanamurthy, Forest Section Officer, Forest Department, Integrated Check Post, Purushottapuram, Ichapuram Mandal, Srikakulam District is further informed that if he does not submit his written statement of defense on or before the date specified in para 3 above, further action will be processed based on the material available.

6. Attention of Sri Bonela Ramanamurthy, Forest Section Officer, Forest Department, Integrated Check Post, Purushottapuram, Ichapuram Mandal, Srikakulam District is invited to Rule 24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964 under which no Government servant shall bring or attempt to bring any political or outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further his interests in respect of matters pertaining to his service under Government. If any representation is received on his behalf from another person in respect of any matter dealt with in these proceedings, it will be presumed that he is aware of such a representation and that it has been made at his instance and action will be taken against him for violation of Rule 24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

(P.T.O)

7. The receipt of this order may be acknowledged.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

RAJAT BHARGAVA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

Sri Bonela Ramanamurthy, Forest Section Officer, Forest Department, Integrated Check Post, Purushottapuram, Ichapuram Mandal, Srikakulam District (w.e, Annexures-I to IV) through the Environment, Forests, Science and Technology (Sec.IV) Department, Secretariat, Velagapudi. (with a request to serve the order on the individual and send the served copy with dated signature to Government)

Copy to

The Environment, Forests, Science and Technology (Sec.IV) Department, Secretariat, Velagapudi.

The Secretary to Vigilance Commissioner, Andhra Pradesh Vigilance Commission, Velagapudi.

The Director General, Anti Corruption Bureau, Pandit Nehru Bus Station, NTR Administration Block, 2nd Floor, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada.

SF / SC.

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-I

STATEMENT OF ARTICLES OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SRI BONELA RAMANAMURTHY, FOREST SECTION OFFICER, FOREST DEPARTMENT, INTEGRATED CHECKPOST, PURUSHOTTAPURAM, ICHAPURAM MANDAL, SRIKAKULAM DISTRICT IN SC.NO.1/SC-ACB/VZM/2014 OF ACB VIZIANAGARAM RANGE

That Sri B.Ramana Murthy, Forest Section Officer, Integrated Check Post, Ichapuram is a native of Devalabadha Village, Narasannapeta Mandal, Srikakulam District. He joined in Government Service on 04.06.1992 as Forest Beat officer in Forest Department. Later he was promoted as Forest Section Officer on 11.08.1998 and posted to Ichapuram Check Post on 21.08.2012 and while working as such he committed the following grave mis-conduct in as much as.

Charge:-1

That Sri B.Ramanamurthy, Forest Section Officer while working as Assistant Marketing Supervisor, at the integrated check post, Purushottapuram, Itchapuram has failed to declare his personal cash in the personal cash declaration register maintained in the check post when the ACB officials surprised the Integrated check post, Ichapuram for the night of 17/18-01-2014.

Thus Sri B.Ramana murthy, Forest Section Officer by his above mentioned acts has exhibited lack of integrity, devotion to the duty, conduct unbecoming of a Govt., servant and contravened Rule 3(1) (2) & 9(8) B of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

RAJAT BHARGAVA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT OF IMPUTATION OF MISCONDUCT IN SUPPORT OF THE ARTICLES OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SRI BONELA RAMANAMURTHY, FOREST SECTION OFFICER, FOREST DEPARTMENT, INTEGRATED CHECKPOST, PURUSHOTTAPURAM, ICHAPURAM MANDAL, SRIKAKULAM DISTRICT IN SC.NO.1/SC-ACB/VZM/2014 OF ACB VIZIANAGARAM RANGE

Sri B.Ramana murthy, Forest Section Officer, Integrated Check Post, Ichapuram is a native of Devalabadah Village, Narasannapeta. Jis date of birth is 01.06.1961. He joined in Government Service on 04.06.1992 as Forest Beat officer in Forest Department. Later he was promoted as Forest Section Officer on 11.08.1998 and posted to Ichapuram Check Post on 21.08.2012 and he was on duty at the time of surprise check on the intervening night of 17/18-01-2014. He is drawing pay of Rs.19,050/-. His date of attaining superannuation is on 31-05-2021. He is here-in-after called as Government Servant.

Charge:-1

That the Government while working as Assistant Marketing Supervisor at the integrated check post, Purushottapuram, Itchapuram has failed to declare his personal cash in the personal cash declaration register maintained in the check post on the intervening night of 17/18-01-2014.

FACTS AND EVIDENCE:-

On receipt of credible information that the employee of the Commercial Tax Department, Transport Department, the Prohibition and Excise Department, Agriculture Market Committee and the Forest Department working at the integrated check post, Purushottapuram (Ichapuram) Srikakulam District were indulging in corrupt practices and collecting mamools (illegal gratification) from the crew of the transport vehicles passing through the check post and as per the instructions of the Head Office, ACB, AP Hyderabad, a surprise check was organized under the close supervision of DSP, ACB, Vizianagaram Range over the integrated check post, Purushottapuram of Itchapuram mandal on the intervening night of 17.18.01.2014 from 00.30 hrs to 07.15 hours in the presence of mediators with the assistance of ACB Inspectors, Vizianagaram and Visakhapatnam Ranges and found certain irregularities.

When, the DSP and other officials entered into the premises of Integrated Check Post, noticed 8 male persons found in the premises of check post, among them 2 male persons found in the outside room of the check post building with the board of Agricultural Market Committee and the Government servant found in another counter of Forest Department, outside the main building and the remaining 5 persons are found sitting on the chairs in the three counters in the main hall of the said check post building. Among them the one person was found in uniform along with another person who is operating the computers in the last counter. The remaining two counters are manned by the officials in civil dress. It is also observed that the counter of Excise Department is found unmanned and it is locked.

The integrated check post is located at purushottapuram village on the outskirts of Itchapuram on the NH-5 road, at the inter-state border of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa states. The DSP deputed his staff members to guard all the counters. When the DSP questioned about the in-charge of the check post, Sri Domburu Behara, ACTO informed that Sri V.Appala Naidu, DCTO is the Administrative officer and in charge of the check post from 10.00 hours to 17.00 hrs in the day time and the concerned senior ACTO will be in charge of the check post during night. At present Sri Damburu Behara, ACTO, Commercial Tax Department is the in-charge of the Check post.

During the course of proceedings the DSP seized the following records from the Check-post.

Contd.,2

1. Attendance Register for the month of January, 2014.
2. Duty Register containing page written pages Nos.1 to 51.
3. Personal Cash Declaration Register containing page Nos 1 to 50 maintained from 29.12.2013.

During verification of personal cash declaration register it is found that the Government Servant while working in the Integrated Check post for the night of 17/18-01-2014 failed to declare his personal cash in the Personal cash Declaration register which is being maintained in the check post.

Thus the Govt. Servant by his above mentioned acts exhibited lack of integrity, devotion to the duty, conduct unbecoming of a Govt. servant and contravened Rule 3(1) (2) & 9(8) B of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

The G.S. has therefore rendered himself liable for regular departmental action.

RAJAT BHARGAVA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-IV

LIST OF WITNESSES BY WHOM ARTICLES OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SRI BONELA RAMANAMURTHY, FOREST SECTION OFFICER, FOREST DEPARTMENT, INTEGRATED CHECKPOST, PURUSHOTTAPURAM, ICHAPURAM MANDAL, SRIKAKULAM DISTRICT IN SC.NO.1/SC-ACB/VZM/2014 OF ACB VIZIANAGARAM RANGE

1	Annepu Kumara Swamy S/o Krishna murthy, 54 yrs, Assist BC welfare Officer, Srikakulam.
2	Hanumanthu Venkata Satyannarayana S/o Suryarao, 27 yrs, Building Inspector, Municipal Office, Srikakulam R/o Gopalapuram village, Palasa mandal. They stated about their presence as official mediators at the time of surprise check conducted on 18-01-2014 from 00.30 AM at Integrated Check Post Purushottapuram, Itchapuram and etc facts.
3	Sri D.Ramesh, ACB, Vizianagaram Range. He speak to the facts of his assisting to DSP, ACB, Vizianagaram Range in the surprise check which was conducted on 17/18.01.2014 at Integrated Check Post, Purushottapuram, Itchapuram, observation in disguise during the surprise check at the counters and collection of mamools from the transport drivers, his enquiry and etc facts.
4	Sri S.Laxmoji, ACB, Vizianagaram Range. He speak to the facts of his assisting to DSP, ACB, Vizianagaram Range in the surprise check which was conducted on 17/18.01.2014 at Integrated Check Post, Purushottapuram, Itchapuram, observation in disguise during the surprise check at the counters and collection of mamools from the transport drivers, his enquiry and ets facts.
5	Sri Shaik Ghouse Azad, Inspector, ACB, Vizianagaram Range. He speak to the facts of his assisting to DSP, ACB, Vizianagaram Range in the surprise check which was conducted on 17/18.01.2014 at Integrated Check Post, Purushottapuram, Itchapuram, observation in disguise during the surprise check at the counters and collection of mamools from the transport drivers, his enquiry and ets facts.
6	Sri Ch.Laxmipathi, Deputy Supdt. of Police, ACB, Vizianagaram Range. He speak to the facts of his supervision of surprise check against the Integrated Check Post, Itchapuram on 17/18.01.2014 from 00.30 hours to 07.15 hours and about the collection of mamools by the officials of check post from the transport drivers, seizure of amount and relevant documents and registers during the proceedings etc., facts.

RAJAT BHARGAVA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS BY WHICH ARTICLES OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SRI BONELA RAMANAMURTHY, FOREST SECTION OFFICER, FOREST DEPARTMENT, INTEGRATED CHECKPOST, PURUSHOTTAPURAM, ICHAPURAM MANDAL, SRIKAKULAM DISTRICT IN SC.NO.1/SC-ACB/VZM/2014 OF ACB VIZIANAGARAM RANGE

1	Original Surprise Check Proceedings Dated: 17-01-2014 at 0030 hrs to 0715 PM drafted at Integrated Check Post, Purushottapuram, Ichapuram of Srikakulam District Containing pages 1 to 5.
2	Attendance Register for the month of January, 2014 of Integrated Check Post, Ichapuram.
3	Duty Register containing page written pages Nos.1 to 51 of Integrated Check Post, Ichapuram.
4	Personal Cash Declaration Register containing page Nos 1 to 50 maintained from 29.12.2013.
5	Reply from the Divisional Forest Officer, Srikakulam vide RC.NO.72/2015,A2 dated 20-01-2015.

RAJAT BHARGAVA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER